



Next Meeting

May 1
7:00 p.m.

**Marie Gile
&
Marion Marzolf**
*Fascination with
Fiber*

Trinity Congregational
Church
2725 4 Mile Rd NW
(1-96 to Walker Exit)
See Road Work Notice
on the inside for
driving directions.

Refreshments:
Margaret Windeknecht
Marta Williams
Cathy McCarthy
Laurie Angell

Greeter:
Katie Bolt

Member



Newsletter Editor:
Bob Meyering, 940-0621
meyr@calvin.edu
Copy deadline,
15th of the month.

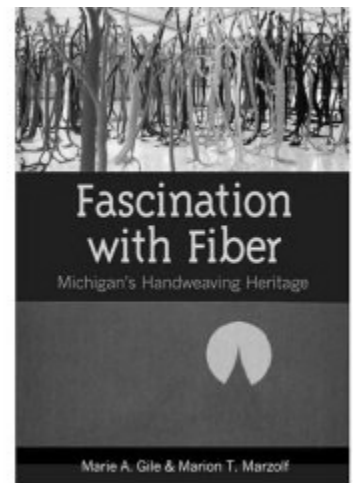
Fascination with Fiber: A Short Journey through Michigan's Handweaving History with a Stop in GR

"Fascination with Fiber: Michigan's Handweaving Heritage," an exhibit of textiles documenting the history of handweaving in Michigan will be on view during Convergence 2006. The exhibit runs from April 23—July 5 at the Tri-Cities Historical Museum in Grand Haven.

This exhibit opened first at the Michigan State Museum in East Lansing, where it had a lengthy stay, then traveled to Midland, Alpena, and now Grand Haven. The research for the exhibit generated a book, *Fascination with Fiber* by Marie A. Gile and Marion T. Marzolf, published by the University of Michigan Press, available Spring 2006.

Marie Gile and Marion Marzolf will be our speakers at the May guild meeting, presenting information about this exhibit, and about the history of weaving in Michigan. They will briefly discuss the nuts and bolts and background work needed to mount the exhibition, with the main focus of their talk centering on their research of the Grand Rapids region and the Woodland Weavers and Spinners Guild as a case study in the project. Because of the rich history of our region and the many individual guild members who were prominent, who kept and continue to keep the craft of weaving alive for those who followed them—with many who remain an inspiration today—they were inspired to document their stories in their new book. They will share with us examples of textiles, written documents, and photographs that help tell the story.

PLEASE NOTE: Guild members are asked to bring samples of their weaving with them which represent their work in different decades, and the teachers associated with these works, or workshop teachers that influenced them. Each piece should have a card with the approximate date of the weaving and the weaver's name and teacher/workshop.



From the President

Another successful retreat! It was such a relaxing day. The weather couldn't make up its mind - sunny and mild or drizzly and gray, but it didn't matter. We spent the day knitting, spinning, sewing, braiding, weaving...did I leave out anything?

Our thanks to Arlene and Linda for organizing this retreat again. Arlene is already busy planning several for next "year." She'll give us the dates soon.

Elections for new officers and board members will be held in June. Please consider taking on a leadership position for a year. There's not much involved in many

of the positions, but you will have an opportunity to serve the guild while expanding your friendships.

If you have any thoughts on how we should recognize our 50th anniversary, please get in touch with me. At the next meeting, Laurie Angell will share an idea she's been looking into.

There are just two meetings left before we break for the summer. I hope you will join us for our very interesting program next Monday evening.

—Jackie Fisher

Equipment needed for Convergence 2006.

4 and 8 harness floor looms are still needed for the workshops. You will be paid \$25 for the use of your loom during the conference. Teachers are also looking for hot plates, irons, drying racks, dye pots with lids and lots of power strips and extension cords. If you are able to help please contact Judi at

jpulver13@yahoo.com or call me at 616-453-2480. Thanks for your support!

Road Work Notice

Please be aware of the construction work that has begun at the Walker Ave. exit off of I-96. This area will be under construction until Nov. 2006. As of April 24, you could still approach from the west and exit at Fruitridge Ave.

All members coming from the east should exit at Alpine Ave. North, and continue north to 4 Mile Rd., turn left (west) for about 1 1/4 mile to the church. Any questions, please call Betty Christians or check with M-DoT for latest road detours. Give yourself a little extra time to arrive.

—Betty Christians
616-647-0792

From JoAnn Bachelder

Please extend my sincerest thank you to your Guild for having me come in March. They are so attentive and I really appreciate it.

Best wishes, along with gratitude, for their work on Convergence. I know how hard you are all working. It's all the little things that make it a success.

It was fun to help Bob celebrate his 60th birthday - let's hope he and the guild continue for years to come!

Most sincerely,

JoAnn Bachelder



Arachné

September/October Workshop:

2 Day Workshop with Norma Smayda

Topic: Summer-Winter Weave Structure

Coming to us soon after our September 2006 meeting is a workshop with nationally known Norma Smayda. Norma lives in Rhode Island where she teaches many different weave structures to her students. We have selected the Summer-Winter Weave Study because of its many possibilities for use in pattern design for various weaving projects. Please be prepared to sign up for this workshop at the May Meeting or the June Meeting. We will be distributing warp preparation information at an informal get-together some time in August.

If this sounds like a workshop you would like to take, please mark your calendar for Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, 2006. If you are interested in the workshop and cannot attend the May or June Meetings, contact Linda Blue at Lgb1242@aol.com or phone 363-0622.

For sale

Country Craftsman Spinning Wheel, single treadle, double drive system. Includes: distaff, lazy kate with 6 bobbins and spinning stool. \$250. Contact Judi at 616-453-2480 or jpulver13@yahoo.com

Norwood 4 Harness Loom, 40 inches, 2 benches, spoil rack, shuttles, two reeds, and other supplies. Very good condition. Asking \$950. Call Florence at 616-301-9066 (Located on Cascade Rd.)

Union Loom

Interested? Make an offer.
John Romanosky, 231-788-3096,
jnroman@juno.com

Another Opportunity—Red Thread Project....

As you know, projects like these do not pay for themselves....not without effort anyway. Therefore, the Red Thread Advisory Committee is organizing an on-line auction to help cover the expenses of the project. The auction will feature original pieces of art by local artists based on the theme of the project - connections/attachment. The works will represent a variety of media - printmaking, textile, sculpture, painting and more. We will be displaying the work at Breton Village in June to promote the event and the auction. The 3-day auction will be online beginning June 29 and ending July 1. The auction will also be advertised at Convergence as well as to ArtWorks and UICA patrons. Donors will be recognized at the exhibition, on our website at in auction materials.

I hope that you will consider a contribution to the auction to support the project. If you are interested and/or have any questions, I would be happy to talk with you. My number at ArtWorks is 458.3133.

Thanks in advance for your consideration.

—Cindy Koning

APRIL 2006 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by guild president, Jackie Fisher.

MaryEllen Gedris, program chair, introduced the evening's program, Margaret Windeknecht speaking on "A Personal History as a Weaver." Margaret spoke on the evolution of her art and showed photographs of pieces she had created using various techniques, including weaving, macramé and beading.

Suzanne DeVries-Zimmerman, guild secretary, read a thank you note received from JoAnn Bachelder, the March program speaker. The secretary's report was published in the newsletter. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes. Julia Daniels made a motion to accept the minutes; Betty Christians seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Julia Daniels, guild treasurer, provided the treasurer's report summarizing income and expenses for the month. The guild's balance as of April 10, 2006 was \$4,225.63.

The evening's 50/50 drawing winner was Linda Blue.

Show and tell participants this month included Julia Daniels, Brenda Terry, Linda Blue, Jackie Fisher, Susan Johnson, Gloria Stevens, Tabitha Tiemeyer, Barb VanDyke, Mary Ippel and Margaret Jager.

Committee Reports

Jackie Fisher announced for Mary Ellen Gedris, program chair, that the May meeting will feature Marie Gile and Marion Marzolf speaking on "Fascination with Fiber."

Linda Blue, workshop chair, provided information on upcoming workshops, including Bryan Schneider-Thomas' dye workshop and the Spring Fiber Retreat, both on April 22, 2006. A fall workshop on Summer/Winter weaving by Norma Smayda was announced for the end of September. Interested persons should sign up by the June guild meeting.

Ann Bont reported on the Michigan League of Handweavers (MLH) scholarship fund. She encouraged guild members to apply in the future as there are funds available and only one person has applied and received a scholarship this year.

Convergence Reports

Judy Pulver is coordinating weaving/workshop equipment for the Convergence 2006 workshops. She has need of 4 and 8 harness looms, dye pots, hot plates and other equipment for Convergence. A list of equipment needed for the workshops will be in the next newsletter. For more information, please contact Judy.

Volunteers are still needed for Convergence 2006. Interested persons should contact the Convergence 2006 Volunteer Coordinator at P.O. Box 5597, Dearborn, MI 48128 or email co6vols@earthlink.net. Further information is available under "Volunteers" on the Handweavers Guild of America website, www.weavespindye.org.

Brenda Terry reported that they are still working on the bookmarks for the goodie bags and that they are still accepting silk fusion donations for same.

Study Group Reports

Diane VanderPol announced that the spinning group will meet at her house next week.

Linda Blue reported that the overshot group has been in contact.

Barb VanDyke reported that the clothing group would have a short meeting immediately following the evening's guild meeting.

Old Business

The guild's 50th anniversary is this year and Jackie requested members think of ways that the guild could commemorate this milestone.

A reminder was given that the guild has scholarship money available for Convergence 2006. Interested parties should submit a letter of request to Ann Bont via email or regular mail by the May meeting.

Jackie Fisher thanked the evening's hostesses and adjourned the meeting.

—Suzanne DeVries-Zimmerman

Woodland Weavers and Spinners Guild
2230 Edgewood SE
Grand Rapids MI 49546

**Next Meeting:
Monday, May 1, 2006
Marie Gile and Marion Marzolf
Fascination with Fiber**

Guild Dates

May 1, 2006

Marion Marzolf and Marie Gile,
"Fascination with Fiber"

June 5, 2006

Year End Potluck

June 25-27, 2006

Convergence Workshops

June 28, 2006

Convergence Studios & Tours

June 29-July 1, 2006

Convergence Conference

Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, 2006

Norma Smayda Workshop

Michigan Weavers Guild Presents Bonnie Inouye

September 21, 2006 – Farmington Hills Community Library - Guild Program –
1:00 PM – “Retrospecting”

Slides and woven examples of important pieces Bonnie has made in the last decade or so illustrate the meandering path of her creative impulses. Bonnie has been weaving since 1967.

September 22-23, 2006 – Rosedale Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard Road, Livonia – Workshop – 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM – “The Big Overshot”

Learn what happens when this twill based structure meets all the new concepts coming from advancing twills. Advancing sequences are fun on 4 shafts, while 8 or more shafts allow fancy tie-ups and more possibilities. Look at advancing honeycomb, ideas from network drafting, deflected doubleweave, swivel, shibori, and textured fabrics. Weave some spectacular fabrics using 4 or more shafts. Work at your own loom.

Lecture on September 21 is open to the public. The workshop fee is \$85.00 for guild members, \$100 for non-guild members. Reserve your place by sending a check made out to MWG to Ken Allen, 33567 Michele, Livonia, MI 48150. If you have questions, contact Ken at 734-427-6268 or Rallen7468@aol.com.